

FREAKS OF THE HONOLULU WEATHER

Yesterday was the coldest day of the season so far. Although the minimum temperature recorded the day before was seven-tenths of a degree lower in the morning, the maximum degree was one and four-tenths higher. This makes it the coldest 7th of January since 1892, when a temperature of 57 degrees was recorded at the Punahon station.

During the storm of the afternoon the wind reached a maximum velocity of 36 miles an hour. About a quarter past five last evening the thermometer suddenly dropped eleven degrees, from 71 degrees to 60 degrees, within a few minutes. Such a change is very remarkable and almost unheard of here.

COMMERCIAL NEWS.

(Continued from page 4.)

ment for the benefit of his creditors to H. May & Co., Ltd., whom he owes about \$1,000, other large creditors being the Bank of Hawaii for nearly \$1,000, and T. H. Davies & Co., Ltd., for about \$700.

The Henry Waterhouse Trust Co., Ltd., has received the securities of the Honolulu Gas Co., to be signed by the officers. None of them are for sale, all having been taken in advance, and a considerable proportion of the securities go to San Francisco. Most of the bonds are of the denomination of \$1,500, the remainder that of \$100. They are 20-year, first mortgage, 6 per cent bonds. S. C. Lowe arrived in the Alameda to superintend the preliminary details of installing the plant, and the first consignment of pipes for the enterprise will arrive in the next American-Hawaiian steamer.

Authoritative information has been received that the Kohala Ditch Co.'s bonds have been financed in San Francisco. The issue is \$400,000, and the flotation assures a putting through of the first section of the ditch. Work will proceed now with the great irrigation scheme that is to relieve the Kohala plantations of all terror of droughts.

On Saturday next the executive committee of the Hawaiian Stock Breeders' Association will meet to consider the report of a special committee on the surplus beef question. A general special meeting of the cattlemen will be held on the following Monday, January 16, to consider the matter as it may be presented by the executive committee.

On Wednesday next Jas. F. Morgan will sell at auction nearly 1,500 paid-up shares of McBryde Sugar Co. The sale ought to be a criterion of the public estimate of the McBryde proposition.

There was coincidence in the arrival of the ship Abbie Palmer at Delaware Breakwater on Friday with 3,300 tons of the old crop, and that of the steamer Nevada on the same day at San Francisco with 5,370 tons of the new crop of Hawaiian sugar, both vessels getting the highest price to date for their cargoes.

Mr. Terrell, agent of the United States Mortgage and Trust Co., bringing the new million-dollar loan bonds here for signature, failed to connect with the Alameda at San Francisco. Commissioner M. T. Simonton will sell the Pacific Heights Electric Railway plant, by judicial order, on Saturday, February 4. Bids for a new school house at Kilauea, Kauai; construction of waterworks at Waima, Hawaii, and sewer pipes for Hilo, have been opened at the Public Works Department. Capt. Max Schlemmer wants a license from the Federal Government to develop the bird-skin industry on Necker Island. Business men of Honolulu are worked up over the question of a Federal building for Honolulu, owing to a cabled inquiry of the Governor by Delegate Kuhio as to the views of the community regarding the proposed purchase of the Alexander Young building for that purpose. Washington advices give but small ground of hope for a large appropriation, if any at all, for Hawaiian harbor improvements at the present session of Congress.

Some liveliness in town was induced by the arrival of the transport Sherman from Manila via Nagasaki, and the transport Thomas arrived off port last night from San Francisco.

SMALL TALKS.

(Continued from Page 4.)

the smoker of the Spanish War Veterans. "Well, they did. You know the Tennessee boys earned a pretty hard reputation in San Francisco. That, perhaps, was because they were too busy by temperament to repose quietly in any town. Anyway, they were the tightest lot of people, almost, that went to the Philippines. And they loved their officers, which was rather an unusual thing with volunteer troops in the Spanish War.

"These two companies had their captains killed in the fighting around Manila, and they seemed to go mad as one man with rage. Breaking from the American lines, they advanced right out into the land of the Filipinos, killing and burning as they went, and for two weeks they were lost from the army. But you could have tracked their course at any time by the trail of dead men and smoking ruins. They traveled in a long circle, and came into our lines again at last almost at the point they had broken away. And they did not lose a man. It was one of the most remarkable episodes of the war."

It was, certainly, and it is a bit of history that has not been written, so far as I know. The most remarkable part of it lies in the fact that the men were driven mad by the loss of their officers. The men of most of the volunteer regiments in the Spanish War were driven mad, usually, by the presence of their officers, not by the absence of them. In fact, it is probably true that some regimental officers met their death from the terrible ball in the back—the ball that carried the death of black treachery. And more would have, had it not been that the men were more conscientious, and more heedful of their duty, than the officers were. It could not well have been otherwise. The ranks of the volunteer regiments were filled with young men who had rushed to the defense of their country, animated by the highest and holiest motives. They were officered, too often, by small politicians, chosen in militia days because of a certain beery popularity as good fellows, and because the tinsel and gold lace went as a cheap payment for favors from a political boss. They had often no more idea of war, and no more sense of the responsibility of the care for their men than any vicious child would have. The shoulder straps of militia days had made them free with their money in the purchase of beer. The shoulder straps of real war inflated their sense of self-importance, without increasing by one jot their sense of the realities of the change. And, so inflated, they treated as dogs the sons of families into whose homes they could not have even entered in peace times, save by the door reserved for servants.

"Well, ———— these ———— to ————!" said my esteemed friend, Jack Lucas, apropos of the present condition of things generally. And, upon my soul, I am sometimes of the same opinion myself.

"They brought a native in here who was a hummer," said Deputy Sheriff Rawlins in the police station the other day. "He had been up against some swipes, down Kakaako way likely, and came reeling along King street until he reached the fire alarm box at the corner of Nuuanu. At that point he turned in an alarm, and was still turning it when a policeman grabbed him.

"What are you doing here?" cried the cop, naturally a little aggravated.

"Ah!" said the native. "Me glad you come. Me got plenty fire inside. Want engine come, put it out."

"I have been around the world," said Jared Smith of the United States Experiment Station, "and have lingered along many of the earth's highways—and I have never seen a place where it was so easy for men to get a living as it is here, nor where there was so little likelihood of men starving to death."

"Say, Hutch, do you write fire insurance?" asked Henry Macfarlane of a well known insurance man.

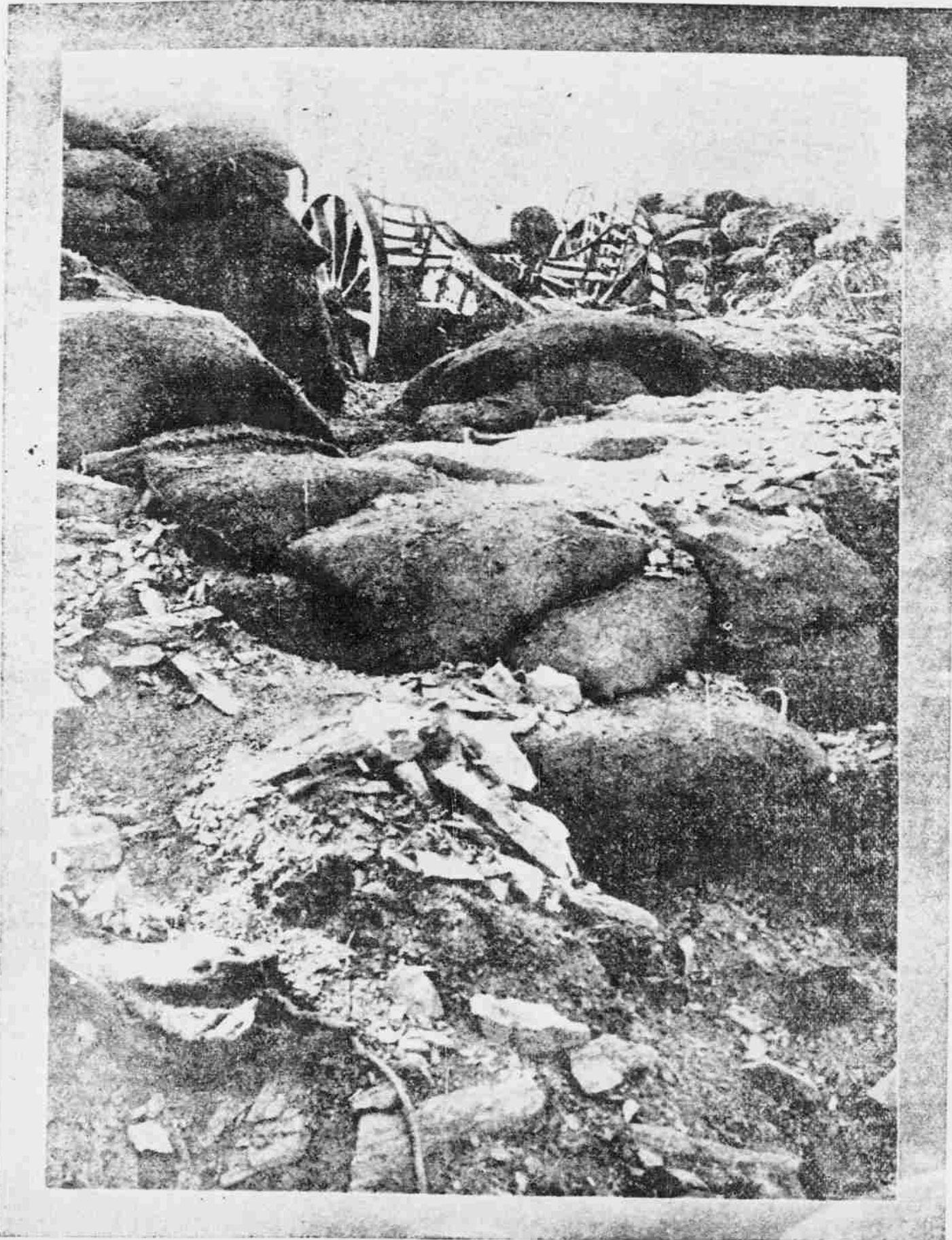
"Sure!" was the answer.

"Well, write me a ten thousand dollar fire policy."

"All right. What on?"

"I am going to get fired out of business."

"School statistics in this cosmopolitan community would seem to indicate that the thirst for the higher education is an American appetite, almost wholly," remarked Principal Scott of the High School. "There are seven hundred pupils in the Honolulu High School. Of these, sixty per cent are Americans, eight



AT PORT ARTHUR—THE ARMISTICE.

per cent British, six per cent German, and the balance, part Hawaiian and Scandinavian, with only twenty Chinese and Japanese. This, considering the number of Asiatics in the primary schools, is a rather remarkable showing.

"Of eleven graduates of the High School class of 1902, there are now two at the University of California, one at Stanford, one at Ann Arbor, one at Bryn Mawr, one at the Naval Academy, one at the Chicago University, and one a stenographer at the office of the Promotion Committee.

Slim little legs, so brown and bare,
Busily running ev'rywhere;
Through yard and house in restless play,
Up and down, all the livelong day;
Will you not rest you, legs of brown?
Rest you and sleep, the night shuts down.

Slim little legs, at mother's knee,
Patt'ring the prayer of infancy—
Pray, while dark shadows droop and fall,
Pray under God's gemmed curtain pall;
Slim little legs still kick and run,
Under the sheets, when day is done.

Slim little legs, so still and cold!—
God, how the heart droops, worn and old!—
All alone, in his trundle bed,
Baby, light of the home lies dead.
Slim little legs! Life's journey's done—
Ended ere yet 'twas well begun.

"Well, you may sneer at the football giants," said Fish Alexander, in a somewhat aggrieved tone, "but, all the same, you would not call corn-fed sylphs like Lawrence Judd, or John Ellis, or myself airy fairies, would you?"

And, upon reflection, I would not. Indeed, I would step off to a pretty safe distance before I called one of them anything. He might fall on me.

HOW HAWAII FARED UNDER ITS BRIEF COUNTY REGIME

Concerning the litigation over the County Act, Attorney General Andrews says in Governor Carter's annual report to the Secretary of the Interior:

"Shortly after the adjournment of the legislature which, by the passage of a county act, changed in toto the government of the Territory of Hawaii from a centralized appointive government to local government on each island which was entirely elective, the question arose as to the legality of the proposed change which was to go into effect on the 1st of January, 1904. Mr. Henry E. Cooper, as superintendent of public works, objected to the transfer of certain property under his department to a Territorial board created by the county act. A test case was brought in the shape of a mandamus directed against Mr. Cooper by the aforesaid Territorial board. The supreme court of Hawaii, however, upheld Mr. Cooper, and declared such portions of the county act affected by this suit to be unconstitutional. This decision raised further disquietude as to the validity of the act, but an election was held under the act in November, 1903, and, following that election, a contest was entered by several defeated candidates who raised technical points in connection with the construction of the act.

"This contest was, however, defeated before the supreme court, the attorney general representing the board of election. Upon the inauguration of the county government, however, on January 1, 1904, funds were found to be unavailable to carry on county government without resorting to credit until the taxes could be collected, and, owing to the distrust with which that act was then regarded by the business community, difficulty was encountered in raising such funds. As a result thereof, a test case was prepared between the Territory of Hawaii and the supervisors of Oahu, in which the

ELKS HAVE A NIGHT OF FUN

The Honolulu Elks enjoyed one of the merriest sessions last night in the history of the organization. Brother Frank Thompson wielded the gavel and touched off the wit, while a whole house full of antlered folk contributed their share of merriment. There was a flow of fun, beer and good fellowship from start to finish. The program was a lengthy one and comprised an opening "spiel" by Brother Fisher, ragtime stunts by Sonny Cunha, songs by Clarence Waterman, Bob White, H. F. Wichman, Mr. Howland, M. H. Webb, Berry of Portland, Hugo Herzer, Ed Masters. "Hypnotics," J. A. M. Johnson; "Tickling the Tourists," E. M. Boyd; "Something Green," W. R. King; "A Swede From Sweden," Jack Bergstrom; "Politics," Jack Lucas; "Hot Lava," P. E. Thompson; "Hot Shot," W. E. Fleming; "Something Easy," H. D. Couzens; "Only Him," Heinrich Berger; cello solo, L. Tobriner. Gus Murphy, Professor Woods, Canary Douthitt, Guy Livingstone and Bruce Hartman also did stunts, the latter giving a burlesque on the "Mother Goose" operetta. Sonny Cunha, E. L. Cutting and Professor Berger were the accompanists.

It was a howling success, the fires of members amounting to a tidy sum to defray the cost of the fun.

MARRIAGE OF EX-KING OF ANNAM.

Nam Nghi, ex-King of Annam, was married in Algiers recently to Mile. Laloe, a French lady and a daughter of the judge of the Algiers court. The ex-king made his wife's acquaintance under romantic circumstances. He was sketching one day last summer in the forest of Fontainebleau, where Mile. Laloe, who has artistic tastes, observed the painting, and entered into conversation with the picturesquely attired artist, unaware that he was a dethroned oriental potentate. The acquaintance ripened and the prince proposed marriage. Nam Nghi is a fine violinist, as well as a talented landscape painter, and speaks French fluently. He is thirty-four, of a slight figure, and his features are handsome and mobile, although his complexion is of a reddish olive tint.

A crowd of 5,000 persons gathered to watch the marriage ceremony.

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Territory, by quo-warranto proceedings, challenged the validity of the county act and the election of the supervisors under the act, and on January 13, 1904, the supreme court of the Territory of Hawaii decided that the whole county act was invalid and void. Fortunately for the Territory, the system had been in operation for such a short time that there was little or no difficulty in returning to the old form of government, which from that time has been the legal form of government of the Territory of Hawaii."